convicted after the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Act, 1988 came into force i.e. with effect from 29.5.1989.

(b) to (d) The provisions contained in Chapter VA of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, as amended, on "Forfeiture of property derived from, or used in, illicit traffic" are applicable to:

(i) every person who has been convicted of an offence punishable under this Act with imprisonment for a term of five years or more;

(ii) every person who has been convicted of a similar offence by a Competent Court of criminal jurisdiction outside India;

(iii) every person in respect of whom an order of detention has been made under the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988 or under the Jammu and Kashmir Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988 and when such order of detention has not been revoked on the report of the Advisory Board constituted under the said Acts or such order of detention has not been set aside by a court of competent jurisdiction;

(iv) every person who is a relative of a person referred to in (i) to (iii) above;

(v) every associate of a person referred to in (i) to (iii) *supra;* and

(vi) any holder of any property which was at any time previously held by a person referred to in (i) to (iii) unless the present holder or, as the case may be, any one who held such property after such person and before the present holder, is or was a transferee in good faith for adequate consideration.

Detailed guidelines to the enforcement agencies of Central and State Governments for implementing the provisions of the aforesaid law have been issued. Government have also sanctioned appropriate administrative infrastructure for carrying out the work relating to forfeiture, etc. of properties derived from, or used in illicit traffic in drugs. The sanctioned authorities and staff have not yet come into position, due to which it has not been possible to enforce and monitor the said Chapter VA of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, as amended.

Opium Production in the country

306. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total opium production in the country during 1987, 1988 and 1989 till date;

(b) the percentage of opium production undertaken by Government and by other agencies, if any, in the country;

(c) the percentage of opium which is estimated to be pilfered annually from the cultivation area and Government godowns and diverted to traffickers; and

(d) the steps that have been taken by Government so far to identify the areas of pilferage and the traffickers involved in the illegal trade of opium and the details of the results achieved?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) to (d) The total opium production in the country during the crop years 1986-87 1987-88 and 1988-89 is as follows:

Crop year (1st October to 30th September)	Total opium production 90°C (in Metric Tonnes)
1986-87	699
1987-88	563
1988-89	488

(Figures rounded off to the nearest M.T.)

Opium poppy cultivation is undertaken in specified tracts only on account of the Central Government and not by any other agency.

In view of the strict control measures and superintendence over areas under poppy cultivation, leakage of opium in any significant quantity has not come to the notice of the Government. There is tight security in the Government opium factories where opium is stored, and no diversion or pilferage from the Government godowns has been reported.

Government have taken all out efforts against possible diversion or pilferage of opium. The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (61 of 1985) provides for a mandatory minimum punishment of 10 years' R.I. and a fine of Rs. 1 lakh for offences relating to embezzlement of opium by cultivators or contravention of provisions of that Act in relation to opium poppy and opium.

Earning of Huge profits by Intermediary Processors of Steel

307. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the huge profits being made by the unscrupulous intermediary processors of steel by purchasing the raw material at controlled prices and selling the finished goods in black at a high premium;

(b) if so, what is the procedure for allocating raw material to the processors of steel, the price at which raw material is given to them and the price at which they are supposed to sell the finished goods; and

(c) what is its overall impact on the consumers stating the nature of control, if any, exercised by Government over the processors to check the selling of finished goods at a high premium?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Sporadic news items have appeared in the past alleging profiteering by some manufacturers of long products but simultaneously the concerned Associations have also countered such allegations.

(b) Supplies to processors at JPC prices are made by the main steel producers of certain designated steel items, as per distribution gudelines framed by the Joint Plant Committee. These, however, constitute a small part of their total requirements. The processors procure the bulk of their requirements from the secondary sector at open market prices.

(c) There is at present no control on the prices of finished products sold by these processors.

Decline in tea production

308. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage fall in the production of tea in the country in the recent past as against the target alongwith the areas where tea production had declined;

(b) to what extent the domestic consumption and export of tea is likely to be affected thereby stating the percentage by which the foreign exchange earnings are likely to fall as a result thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to import tea in order to meet the domestic demand and export obligations; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof stating the likely impact on the domestic prices of tea as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) As per the statistics of Tea Board, the percentage fall against the